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Gazette of the United States, and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser.

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Number 1719.] PHILADELPHIA: WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 14, 1798. [Volume XIII.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, March 2.

The House being in a Committee of the Whole on the Bill providing the means of Intercourse with Foreign Nations, and Mr. Nicholas's amendment being under consideration—

Mr. OTIS

HAVING been absent during a very elaborate and protracted discussion of the present amendment, and having observed that all arguments pertinent to the subject had been long since exhausted, he had been gratified by the belief that the occasion would not require him to express an opinion. But Gentlemen not appearing to be content, even with the very ample examination already bestowed on this question, without reviewing and copiously enlarging upon it, he would claim the indulgence of the Committee in listening to a few observations on his part, though he was apprehensive that his powers of utterance in the present state of his health would not enable him to do justice either to the subject or to himself.

The objects of this amendment were ostensible and real. The ostensible motive is to reduce the salaries of two of our Foreign Ministers, at Lisbon and Berlin; but various real motives, and of a contrary and inconsistent nature, were assigned by Gentlemen who supported it. Some avowed that it was a preparatory measure to the discontinuance of the whole system of Foreign Intercourse; other confessed the probability that this intercourse to a certain extent, would always be indispensable, but that it might be reduced, and the destination of the Ministers fixed by the House; others again, contended for the right of specifying the amount of their salaries;—but all must agree that one real object was to try the strength of parties; and another, to sanction the practice of an annual invective against the Executive, and to confirm their right to interfere with his measures.

Strange as were some of the arguments used by Gentlemen, he should think there had been more colour for them, upon an original proposition to establish or to extend our Foreign Intercourse, though in that case he should contend that they were not warranted by the Constitution: but this question was not upon the creation of a new establishment, it was upon changing one which already exists. The date and duration of its existence are immaterial the debate and deliberation which accompanied its adoption were also unimportant. It was to him a new doctrine, that laws must be repealed and systems unsettled, on the ground that principles had not undergone a sufficient discussion. Should this doctrine of surprize be suffered to prevail, there would be no stability in our laws, and no consistency in our conduct. When an Act has passed the Legislature without debate, the presumption is that its expedience was too evident to be disputed, and he who would effect a repeal of such an act, like a plaintiff in error, should be precluded from objections that might have been urged against the original process, and be confined to a demonstration of experimental mischiefs. In the present instance, however, he was not restricted to this ground—The appropriation for the Minister at Berlin was the subject of debate at the last session; and though no opposition was made to the appropriation for the advanced grade of the Ministers to Lisbon and Madrid, yet the principle on which it was granted provoked a controversy which engaged all the abilities and ingenuity of both parties. This last appropriation was made on the 1st of June, 1796, pursuant to the President's message of May 28, in that year; but in the same month of May the House had decided in favour of the appropriation for the British Treaty, after a debate that continued many weeks, and which involved the same principle.—It was indeed a curious argument of the Gentleman from Maryland (Mr. S. Smith) that the vote of the majority upon the call for papers, shewed the opinion of the House with respect to the right of refusing an appropriation; the contrary inference was certainly more just, from the decision upon the main question, on which some of that same majority voted in favour of granting the money, and did actually grant it.—He should, therefore, persist in his assertion, that the friends to the amendment ought to have demonstrated the inconveniences resulting from our foreign intercourse with Lisbon and Berlin instead of descanting upon the dangers attendant on Executive patronage; for, if these inconveniences were seriously alarming, and if they had a right to interpose, the Ministers ought to be recalled, be the patronage ever so inconsiderable; but if advantages had resulted from their mission, they ought to be continued without regard to the patronage; and if it were uncertain whether they would promote the public welfare or not, time should be allowed to them to make the experiment under the direction of the proper department. In this first and most proper view of the question, he would enquire what evils had arisen from the present establishment of our foreign intercourse? The answer was plain and conclusive. None from our intercourse with Lisbon and Berlin, the only countries implicated in the amendment; we were in perfect harmony with them. Great Britain, Spain and France, are the three countries from which our embarrassments have arisen, and these, in the two first instances, cannot be imputed to our stationary Ministers, or our Treaties; and in the last, Gentlemen themselves will be unwilling to admit that the public interest has suffered injury. The British depredations had never, as he understood, been imputed to our Treaty with France; it was more natural to ascribe them to a spirit of violence and injustice, which is too common to powerful nations engaged in war, and to apprehensions of our making a common cause with France;—apprehensions that were unfortunately countenanced by the conduct of French Ministers and citizens; by the enthusiasm of clubs, by the equipment of privateers, by civic feasts, and by loud and unequivocal demonstrations of joy upon every fortunate event that befel their arms, which rebounded from one extreme of the continent to the other.

If from Great Britain we went to Spain, it would not be pretended that our late misunderstanding with that nation was to be imputed to our Ministers residing there; but entirely to her Ministers and officers in this country.

With respect to the agency of our late Minister to the French Republic, in our present controversy, he was aware that a great difference of opinion prevailed. There were those who believed that he had betrayed the interests of his country, and that he was either the dupe or the tool of that nation; that he had bad designs or weak nerves, that he was dazzled by the splendour of their victories, or cajoled by the ardour of the fraternal embrace; that he suppressed communications which it was his duty to have made, and contracted obligations which he was not authorised to fulfil.—There were those who thought that the disclosure of his instructions was not only injurious to his country, but a measure for which a Minister in Europe would be hooted by all parties, and in France would lose his head; that it was a measure which even the most unjust accusation should not have prompted, and for which injured innocence could claim no excuse.—But there are others who contend that he has acted a part becoming the Minister of a free country, that a Republic should have no secrets, except such as might be disclosed to our magnanimous ally, with the confidence that a lover whispers his tale in the ear of his mistress. It was of no moment, which of these opinions he espoused. Gentlemen who supported the amendment did not believe in the former. But if his private sentiments were required, he was ready to profess his sincere persuasion that our difficulties with France were not to be imputed to any one man, but to a desperate and misguided party, existing in the bosom of our own country, who were in league with other bad citizens resident in France, and with the French nation; and he had no doubt that regular information and instructions were conveyed from this country to influence the measures of the Directory, and impede our attempts to negociate with success.

The British treaty was not the cause of the measures adopted by the French in relation to our commerce, but an apology for those measures. They had captured our vessels and laid embargoes upon them, prior to the ratification of that instrument, nor was this treaty deemed a justification of their conduct until many months after they were acquainted with its contents.

But we are challenged to shew any advantages gained by our treaties and intercourse with foreign nations. He thought it easy to specify many, and to shew the probability of others, which might still be expected.—

And first, France still continued to manifest a disposition so hostile and injurious, that he could not rely at present upon any instance in our connection with that nation to aid his general position.—

Secondly, Great Britain—He did not feel it incumbent on him to become the encomiast of the British treaty, nor was he to be deterred from expressing his opinion upon it, thro' fear of giving offence to its warm and numerous adversaries. Had the provisions of that treaty been more beneficial to the country, had we been able to make a treaty to suit our own wishes and circumstances, he should have been more happy, but this was to say nothing that would not apply to every treaty. But had no advantages resulted from that compact? Had we not obtained the western posts? Has not at least a partial compensation been made for the spoliations upon our commerce? Is it not probable that we have been saved from a war with that nation, whose powerful navy would have proved more formidable to our commerce, than the whole force of any other nation? Or, if gentlemen now believe that we should not have been at open war, will they maintain that the British depredations would not have swept off the greater part of our navigation? On the contrary, we have gained three years time, in the course of which our commerce has prospered under all disadvantages, and in the last of which our revenue has increased by nearly two millions of dollars—These advantages were not slight or contemptible; but a more important acquisition had been secured by means of that treaty. It has been instrumental in correcting our unfriendly prejudices against one nation, and our blind admiration and affection for another. It has restored the equilibrium of sober judgment. It has given scope for the American character to unfold itself, and taught us the value of our own rights, in preference to those of any other nation.—

Thirdly, Spain—He believed that the advantages secured to us by the Spanish treaty had never been doubted or denied. It had been said, that for this we are indebted to an envoy extraordinary, and not to a stationary minister; but who can say, that the talents and address of his respectable friend from S. Carolina (who was not then in his place) could have accomplished this object with the same facility, had not the good will of the Spanish cabinet been conciliated by familiar discussions of the controverted points with our minister resident? Or who will pretend that our interest does not require us to preserve the beneficial relations of that treaty, at the expence of supporting a minister constantly at that court? This is now contemplated by the amendment, as new modelled, but the arguments originally applied against this establishment in common with others.

Fourthly, Portugal—Lisbon is the observatory from which we must watch the variable aspects of the Barbary powers, and protect our increasing commerce to the Mediterranean; by our connection with that country, we had procured the advantage of pacifying those powers. She also afforded an asylum to our vessels in time of war with those states, and not unfrequently the protection of a convoy.

Fifthly, Prussia—What employment can we have for a minister at Berlin? He would mention some of the useful provisions to be found in our treaty with Prussia—it stipulates to grant convoy in certain cases; it contains no list of contraband articles; it agrees that the effects of our merchants dying in that country shall not be confiscated. And this treaty, in common with the treaty with Sweden, recognizes the great and important principle that "Free bottoms make free goods," a principle which is allowed to be of the highest importance to the commerce of this country, and the direliction of which in another case, had drawn forth the heaviest censures. But other reasons for renewing these treaties had been assigned by the President, in his message at the last session, which he considered deserving the highest attention. But the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Gallatin) had asserted that this message was at variance with the valedictory address of the late President, and to prove his assertion, he had grossly perverted the meaning of the message.—The President had never intimated that we should interfere in the adjustment of the political balance of Europe; but that caution was proper to prevent our being thrown into the scale of either of the European powers. A sentiment perfectly in unison with the whole tenor of the address, and with the system of his Predecessor, in whose time the grade of the minister at Lisbon was advanced, and whose advice was, that in extending our commercial connections, we should beware of political compacts.

It is for the public to decide upon the motives of that gentleman, in attempting to prove the existence of a different policy under the late and present administration.

The same gentleman had allowed that it might be necessary to maintain ministers at all the courts, with which we have commercial treaties, but that consuls are adequate to all purposes in other countries. We have treaties of commerce, or of friendship, with all the countries to which we have sent ministers, except only with Russia, (the treaty with which has lately expired, and ought to be renewed), and Portugal, where the gentleman himself would not seriously contend that a consul would be competent to the business. It is well known, that consuls are intended merely to accommodate private disputes, and are not under the protection of the law of nations. Whenever they receive credentials for transacting public business, they are ministers and not consuls.

But, say gentlemen, ministers resident, or ministers with reduced salaries, will be adequate to the management of our affairs at Lisbon and Berlin. He wished to know from what source the gentleman from Maryland derived this information? Did he correspond with the Prince of Peace, or the Cardinals or Grandees of those countries? Or did he acquire his knowledge from the captains of his own vessels or any of the passengers? He wished, at least for more precise information on this subject, and thought the change ought not to be made upon slight suggestions, or on account of personal prejudices against either of the persons now in office; he added that ministers resident were going out of fashion. Holland alone gave commissions of that grade. The lowest diplomatic rank now usual, is that of ministers plenipotentiary; and if we mean to preserve any foreign intercourse, it must be done by such agents as are accredited at the courts near which they reside, who can have ready access to the fountains of power in those countries, and be placed on a footing in rank and consequence with their associates.

The project of totally abolishing our foreign intercourse, he considered as perfectly chimerical, and when a resolution should be offered to that effect, it should be accompanied by a proposal to encompass our seaboard with a magic circle, and to build a Chinese wall on our frontier. We are a member of the great family of nations, and our comfort and convenience, require no less than the genius of our people, require an extensive commercial intercourse with other countries; and this gives rise to rights, regulations and controversies, which must be explained and adjusted by such ministers, as by the customs of those countries have a claim to attention and respect.—It had already been shewn that our ministers sent for the purposes of commerce, and of requiring information, would not increase our political connections with Europe; but said the gentleman from Pennsylvania, "it is natural for man to act in whatever sphere he is placed, and if they cannot do good, they will do harm;" Mr. O. believed that this principle might be more applicable to individuals in a legislature, where responsibility was divided, than to a public and responsible minister.

Mr. O. contended that this view of the question was sufficient to satisfy the calm and dispassionate enquiries of those who limited their right to interfere with this power of the Executive to cases of actual abuse—It would be satisfactory to say to those, point out the abuse and we will unite with you in devising a remedy; and where they failed to do this, it would be more than satisfactory to assume the burden of proof and demonstrate that the authority has been exercised for the public advantage. But there are other men whose enjoyment of the present is always clouded by a gloomy anticipation of the future, and who are never contented with the most ample measure of present liberty and security; but brood over the histories of kings and the oppressions of arbitrary power, until their imaginations are heated by day and their visions disturbed by night, by the spectre of tyranny stalking over their country—"Whence and what art thou execrable shape!" is a question proposed by their startled fancy to every proposition and measure of the Executive. This jealousy is uncomfortable to themselves, and inconvenient to those with whom they are called to act, but it is sincere; it therefore deserves to be reasoned with, to be pitied and forgiven.—There are also other men, much less innocent, who really feel no such jealousy, but who expect to promote their views by an apparently noble and patriotic affectation of it. These are the exclusive guardians of the public welfare, the centinels who forewarn us of future danger, the political quacks who acknowledge the body politic to be in perfect health, but at the same time foretell its untimely dissolution, unless they are permitted to surfeit it with their nostrums, and to bleed and blister it into long life. These men make a loud out cry against all influence which they do not share, and all patronage under which they do not bask. Now between these two descriptions, these over-heated believers and hypocritical professors, it is extremely difficult to distinguish.—They utter their lamentations in the same language, and they avail themselves of the same occasions. In times of alarm and danger, when the public mind is agitated, when the storm approaches and men grow anxious for the safety of their families and their country; these two orders of men are ever found to talk loudest and increase the existing ferment.—He had no doubt that some men of this latter description had insinuated themselves into every legislature *but the present*. If he supposed that any of them were in that house, he should deem all argument lost upon them. He should merely say to them, "Gentlemen go on with your speeches; they are the same in substance that were made two thousand years ago. Shew me a well assorted library, or even a set of the parliamentary debates, and I will find you an hundred models of such speeches—They are the same which banished from Greece her best and most virtuous citizens, which filled Rome with proscriptions and blood-shed; which excited revolutions in England and turned Paris into a charnel-house; which have done some mischief in our town meetings and state house yards, but which, upon the sober sense and cool reflection of the American people, produce no impression that is deep or visible." He should say to them, "you declaim against corruption, and profess views of alleviating the burdens of the people—So did the tribunes of the Roman people and all the race of reformers from their times to the present. This was the language of Oliver Cromwell, who was once a leader of a feeble minority; it was the language of Sidney, whose book the gentleman from Pennsylvania has read, and who, after writing the fine things in that book, has left an equivocal character, and has been charged by the pen of history with receiving bribes from the French.—It is the same language that is used in the British House of Commons by Sheridan and Fox, possibly with good intentions, and it was the favorite theme of Marat & Robespierre in the French convention, who certainly had the very worst intentions.—Perhaps your meaning is perfectly honest; but no faith is due to professions; we must adhere to the old standard of truth, "*by their works shall ye know them.*"

But, upon the presumption, that there are some in that house who are seriously alarmed upon the subject of Executive patronage, and who prophecy future danger from that source; he begged leave to ask for a precise definition of the meaning of those words. Do these gentlemen mean by patronage, the right vested in the President by the constitution of nominating to certain offices? Surely not; for this would be an insidious reproach upon the constitution itself. Do they then mean, the natural influence acquired by a fair exercise of that power? They will not allow this to be their meaning; for the *influence* to a certain extent being the inevitable consequence of the *right*, an objection to one is an objection to the other, and both again are objections to the constitution.—The only obnoxious meaning which in his view could be applied to Executive patronage, was an undue influence arising from an improper and unconstitutional exercise of that power, and this could happen but in two modes, either by the appointment of improper characters, or by making the appointments too numerous—With respect to the characters of the persons appointed, it was not suggested by any gentleman that the President with the advice of the Senate, had not a constitutional discretion; it was not contended that the authority of the house extended to that point; no person had yet openly avowed this design o breaking down all the barriers of the constitution, of opening all the flood gates of innovation; if any gentleman would hazard such a pretension, he must be prepared to order the President and Senate to take their seats in this house. Had then the appointments been too numerous? He had attempted to shew that our connection with other countries required them all; but if he had failed to convince gentlemen of this truth, it would not follow that the Executive was solely culpable on this score; *for upon their principles*, the house could have refused an appropriation in the first instance, and they were therefore self-convicted as accessaries before the fact—Further, the amendment would not diminish the number, or the patronage. The present ministers might indeed resign, and the vacant offices might gain over, or confirm two other proselytes to administration.

But we are directed to take precautions against the future abuse of powers that are at present used with wisdom and moderation.—So then we must do evil that good may come of it.—This may be agreeable to the modern theories of *political justice*—We must also bind our successors, and legislate for the next generation.—This was not consonant to the modern theories of the *rights of man*. Gentlemen must be careful, lest their favorite authors betray them into contradictory theses. Did not the framers of the constitution foresee that all its powers were liable to abuse? Did they attempt to change the nature of the human passions? No, they were content to furnish the departments with checks sufficient to prevent instant danger, and to remedy actual abuse; but they never intended that they should speculate beforehand upon the mischief which they might respectively do each other. To anticipate such cases, was to amend the constitution, and if gentlemen could be indulged, there would be no end to the passion for amendment, every seam in the constitution would be unripped, every ornament lopped off, new cloth would be added to the old garment, and the rent would be made worse.

Again, said Mr. O. it is edifying and amusing to remark the great uneasiness entertained by gentlemen at the danger of the Executive power, and the composure with which they regard the powers in their own hands—It was another proof of the control of prejudice over the imagination. The gentleman from Pennsylvania, according to the humour of the moment, might imagine a period, in which the Executive should arrogate all the powers of that house, and make treaties and raise armies without their consent. On the contrary, with a less violent effort of the imagination, he could suppose, that at some future day, there might exist within the walls of that house, a furious and inveterate party, whose ruling passion should be an invincible hatred of a wise and virtuous administration; a party opposed to every measure calculated to raise the drooping honour of their country; a party infatuated by the politics of another nation and indifferent to the degradation of their own; a party forever active to embarrass and divide the people, and always inventing means to distract the public councils, and to sever the Union. But as there was room for imagination, there might be some for hope; he therefore invited that gentleman to hope for, and to join in promoting a better state of affairs; and to place before his view the picture of an administration full of energy; a legislature harmoniously moving within its appropriate sphere; to their government with confidence and affection in trying exigencies; a government organizing, by prompt and vigorous operations, the resources of the country for the protection of its liberties and rights; beloved and prosperous at home, respected and feared abroad. This was the prospect on which he delighted to dwell—This was the hope which he sometimes cherished at his heart.

Let us, said he, descend from the regions of imagination and reason from analogy and facts. He believed the position to be sound and tenable, that in a government constituted like ours, the danger of an unjust assumption of power was on the side of the popular branch, and did not arise from the Executive—and for this opinion, he would submit a few obvious reasons. In the first place, a House of Representatives has stronger inducements to extend its powers. The love of power, he would suppose equal in all men; and this fondness arises, not merely from the pleasure of possessing it, but from the satisfaction of displaying what we possess. The ordinary business of legislation, is a remote operation, the execution of the laws is a direct operation. In the latter, the hand that moves is more visible, more feared, more respected; and as men affect power, not only for the sake of strength, but ostentation, a House of Representatives is not likely to be insensible to this charm. On the other hand, the Executive possessing this advantage under the Constitution, has no motive to enlarge the bounds of his authority.

Again, a House of Representatives would generally possess a greater share of the confidence of the people. Its members chosen from the body of the people, are presumed to be actuated by the same feelings and interests with their constituents; and in doubtful cases, they have the daily advantage of pleading their own causes before the tribunal of the public; while the Executive is heard only in formal messages and addresses. This advantage inspires them, in the third place, with greater confidence in themselves, and their responsibility being divided, bold pretensions are advanced by individuals, the merits of which, if successful, they claim for themselves, while the discredit of a bad experiment is divided among their companions. One other reason had been often mentioned, to which he would slightly allude, though it was very important and conclusive. The greater facility of extending the legislative power, by reason of its general and comprehensive character. The power of the popular branch was, in this respect, like a river which sometimes overflows and sometimes undermines its banks; while that of the legislature might be compared to a lake whose margin was defined, and which never rose above a certain level.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania had ventured an assertion repugnant to this doctrine, and had assigned two reasons that should render the popular branch less able to usurp an excess of power than the Executive department. It had not the *Esprit du Corps*; and the privilege of imposing taxes was odious in its nature. He utterly denied the fact, that no *Esprit du Corps* existed in such bodies as that house. On the contrary, it was always clear and undeniable. Did not that spirit exist in the British House of Commons? and was there not another house in which a party was seen obedient to the very *wink* of its *corporals*?—There was not more weight in the other objection; for those members of a House of Representatives who were most ambitious of popularity and influence, had the address to be in a minority upon all questions of taxation, and to escape the odium attached to the imposition of public burdens.

He would not follow gentlemen who had preceded him in their illustration of this doctrine, by examples taken from the republics of Greece and Rome. It was true, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania had asserted, that no great resemblance could be found between those states where the principle of representation was unknown, and a representative government constituted like ours. But the comparison might become just, when a house of representatives should engross the whole power of the country. Representation was the greatest improvement in the science of government, when modified and divided into different departments;--but he could see no difference between a single house of representatives, and the Comitia of Rome, or the popular assemblies of Athens, except as the former would unite greater abilities and address, faction might seize its prey with greater certainty.

But if the resemblance did not hold between ancient and modern republics, there was still less between our government and the feudal governments of Europe. He would however quote one or two examples from history, which he thought applicable to this position. In the time of Charles the First of England, the parliament conceived the design of reducing the undue influence of the crown. They began with abolishing the more odious and oppressive prerogatives; but did they content themselves with a wise and necessary reform? No, the work of reformation was taken from the hands of those who began it, and was prosecuted by one set of fanatics succeeding another, until the constitution was subverted, the monarch was brought to the scaffold, and the government fell first into the hands of the parliament, who were deprived of it by Cromwell; and after the people had groaned for years under the despotism of this patriotic and republican reformer, they called in their young king, who became more arbitrary than his father; and so disgusted were all ranks of men with the abuses of usurpation, that tho' some concessions favourable to liberty were obtained at the accession of the Prince of Orange, yet the crown has acquired an influence which is now truly overbearing; but which could not, perhaps, be reduced with safety to the country.

But why do we refuse to go for instruction to France? Is it from motives of policy that we decline to moralize upon the scenes which have happened in our own time? Or does not the instance apply? It is well known, that a very large majority of the first National Convention, consisted of men whose intentions were very distant from a destruction of the regal power. They intended to limit that power within wholesome bounds, and to reform the great and enormous abuses of the old government. They attempted to frame a constitution, after deciding in favour of a legislature with one branch, which destroyed the hope and possibility of a constitution, and when the wretched instrument that was called by that name was produced, and the only good feature which it contained was, the negative given to the king; the legislative body, intoxicated with power, and impelled by its furious leaders, compelled the monarch to renounce it. This sacrifice, was soon sealed with his blood? Popular leaders then squabbled for the supreme power, the people looked on with horror. Robespierre prevailed, the same Robespierre who had so often ranted against corruption and waste of public money. I draw a veil over the mournful, well known scenes that followed. It is sufficient, that the people, flying for refuge from anarchy back to despotism, have permitted the Executive Directory to take all the powers of the nation into their hands, to hold the prize, to command the army, and to dispose of the lives of the citizens.

It is, therefore, for our common interest, to extend the powers of the house, with the greatest caution, otherwise precedent will follow precedent, one innovation will lead to

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...another, and when the people see their executive prostrate, they may come in to his protection, and furnish him with means of supporting himself that would be truly formidable.

Mr. O. observed, that he should have attempted to shew, that these legislative encroachments had sometimes happened in our own country; but the gentleman from New-Jersey (Mr. IMLAY) had read the authority on which he meant to rely. It was Mr. Jefferson's notes on Virginia. He would, however, take occasion to read another passage, to another point.. When the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SMITH) was pleased to compliment the Virginia members with the puff direct, he did not know but that some invidious reflections had been made upon that state.—The design, however, was understood by him, when he perceived that a gentleman from Virginia (Mr. T. CLAIBORNE) by *a rider* annexed to his written speech, returned the compliment to the people of Maryland. For his part, he thought it highly improper to criminate the designs of the people of any one state. He presumed the people of Virginia were like other people, and with some of their representatives it was his pride and his pleasure to think and to act. There were others from whom he differed in politics, and whose measures and opinions of government, he believed to be pernicious and unsound.—But for them he found an apology in that book; Mr. O. then read the passage in Jefferson's notes page 194—where it is hinted that the government of Virginia is an *elective despotism*; and a passage page 195, to this effect, "that the direction of the Executive during the whole time of their session, has become habitual and familiar." It was, therefore, natural for gentlemen educated in those habits of dictating to their Executive upon all occasions, to form erroneous ideas of government, and of the Federal Constitution. Mr. Jefferson has indeed remarked in the same book, that this conduct of the legislature of Virginia, "*proceeded from the best intentions, and that they were misled by art and design in others*"—He did not mean to dispute upon the subject of their intentions, but their measures he could never approve.

After so much had been said upon the subject of Executive Patronage, Mr. O. would add but a few observations. The patronage of the Executive was fairly presumed to be the patronage of the people. When a man, after rendering the most important services to his country for a series of years, is elected at an important crisis of national affairs to the high office of President of these states; his political opinions, in general, and his sentiments upon the existing state of affairs, must have been known to the people by whom he was elected. It must also have been foreseen, that he would pursue such a system of administration, and by the aid of such means and agents as would be best calculated to give efficacy to his own sentiments and system. His system, therefore, may be considered as sanctioned by the previous assent of the majority of the people. His constitutional patronage is the patronage of that majority, and to increase that majority by all fair means, is to increase the chance of public tranquillity. It is an important duty that should be judiciously exercised, and not an offence to be disavowed.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania, as a proof of the patronage already enjoyed by the Executive, had exhibited an aggregate amount of the salaries of the public officers, and contractors in the United States. But a large proportion of these officers were not appointed by the Executive, nor did they feel any dependence upon him. In many instances, they would be found among the most zealous opposers of his measures, and enlisted under the banners of his adversaries. Numbers of them appointed by the heads of departments, were unknown to the President, and feeling morally sure of retaining their offices, except in cases of gross misbehaviour, they were often led, by the violence of opposition, to prepare for a change of men and measures, and to be more solicitous for the favour of members in that house, who might attempt to raise or diminish their salaries, than of the Executive himself.

After so much had been said respecting the constitutional right of the House to refuse an appropriation, Mr. Otis observed that he should add but a few remarks.—To prevent confusion on this subject, it might be well to state the points in which both sides of the House were agreed, and those in which they dissented.—It was not denied that the President had the right of nominating public Ministers; nor had it been contended that the House possessed the right of fixing their salaries; the doctrine of his friends was merely that the appointment of a Minister imposed a moral obligation to give a reasonable salary, and that being once determined, it was unjust to reduce it without the best reasons. It was doubted by the Gentleman from Pennsylvania, whether the office of Minister was created by the Constitution, and whether it was not competent to this House to fix the destination of a Minister, and it was asserted by him that in all cases the House had an authority to refuse every appropriation. On these last points they were at issue. To explain the reason of his doubt respecting the right of the President to designate the Courts to which the Ministers should be sent, that Gentleman had relied that the same clause in the Constitution which gives the power of appointing Ministers to the Executive, also gives that of appointing Judges of the Supreme Court; which he never pretended to exercise until the number of Judges had been ascertained by law.—In this argument he hardly appeared to be serious; but he would answer, that the same Constitution provides that "a Supreme Court shall be established by law," and it has no existence until created by law.—A Court is a jurisdiction committed to one or more persons; the jurisdiction is constituted by a law, which describes the number of persons to whom it shall be committed; the Executive then appoints those who are to exercise this legal jurisdiction. In case of foreign Ministers, if their destination must be established by the Legislature, the objects of their mission must also be understood and ratified by the same authority, or it must be exercised without discretion; and the whole power of negociation would thus be attracted as incident to the other.

It was further urged by the same Gentleman, that in all cases the House might refuse to appropriate; otherwise the Executive might absorb all the powers of the legislature, might form Treaties of Alliance, maintain an Army and Navy, and expend all the public treasure.

Let us consider, on the other hand, the consequence of that Gentleman's doctrine.—Every appointment made by the Executive becomes a nullity, unless ratified by that House; in the face of the Constitution which excludes them, and confines this duty to the President, with the advice of the Senate.

It was owing to the apparent contradictions arising from a theoretical view of constitutions like ours; that they were pronounced to be impracticable by some of the best writers of antiquity. And these abstract questions and extreme cases were not calculated to reconcile the minds of our citizens to our excellent form of government. It is a plain and conclusive reply, by which all such objections are obviated, that the Constitution is not predicated upon a presumed abuse of power by any department; but on the more reasonable confidence that each will perform its duty within its own sphere with sincerity, that division of sentiment will yield to reason and explanation, and that extreme cases are not likely to happen.

One word in relation to the motives of Gentlemen, and he would finish his observations, which, he was admonished, by his voice and feelings had been too much extended. Why, said Gentlemen, do you charge us with designs to subvert the Constitution? Have we not our share of wealth and of power? He was not one of those who had imputed such designs to Gentlemen; nor would he pretend to say whether the part of the Union represented by those Gentlemen was rich, or generally involved in debt. But he would say, that wealth was not always a security for public or private virtue. Was not the Duke of Orleans rich? Was not his income equal to the revenue of a kingdom? But he was not satisfied with his elevated rank or princely fortune—He conspired with others, men high in station, who possessed both riches and their share of power, and promoted a revolution which, like a whirlwind, swept them off into swift destruction.—It is not easy to discern, and therefore not always necessary to impeach, the motives of men. When, therefore, a Gentleman exclaims, we want no revolution, we wish for no change, we wish to keep things quiet, he was not authorised to dispute the assurance, and say it was not true.

But when, in the same breath, he heard insinuations comparing the President of the United States to Charles I. and the mild exercise of a constitutional power to the odious claim of *ship-money*, in that reign; and when he heard further, the opposition to the present bill compared to an opposition to that odious measure, he would not say that he discredited the professions of Gentlemen—God only knew their hearts, but their language was full of danger.

The Gentleman from Pennsylvania had concluded with an invitation to his friends to unite with him in two objects; in preventing the increase of foreign influence, and in diminishing the expenditure of the public money. He would meet that Gentleman; and, if he and his friends would discover a real disposition to join in measures to prevent the increase of foreign influence; he should almost be inclined to secure that advantage, by consenting, for himself, that they should dispose of the money upon their own plans.

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TUESDAY, March 13.

Mr. COIT, from the Committee of Elections, made a further report, which was ordered to lie upon the table.

Mr. LIVINGSTON observed, that the Senate having insisted on their amendments to the bill affording relief to the refugees from Canada and Nova-Scotia, he wished a committee of conference to be appointed to confer with the Senate.

The SPEAKER said it was first necessary for the House to determine they would not recede from their disagreement to their amendments.

The sense of the House was accordingly taken, and having determined to insist on their disagreement, a committee of conference was appointed.

Mr. D. FOSTER, from the Committee of Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of William Thorne, which was ordered to lie on the table.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, inclosing a report on the petition of the Portland Marine Society, who pray for certain buoys to be placed in Portland harbour. The report is favourable, recommending the placing of six buoys in the said harbour, the expence of which is estimated at 400 dollars. The report was referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, with instructions to report by bill or otherwise.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House that they had passed the bill for the support of Government for the year 1798, and for other purposes; to the bill providing the means of intercourse with foreign nations; and to the conference proposed with respect to the amendments to the bill for relief of Refugees from Canada and N. Scotia.

Mr. SEWALL wished the House to go into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, in order to take into consideration the resolutions which had been referred to it.

This motion was objected to, on the ground of further information being expected from the President with respect to our dispute with France, and occasioned a very warm debate (which shall be given to-morrow). It was at length agreed to go into a Committee of the Whole, when 115,833 dollars were appropriated for completing and equipping the three frigates for sea; and also a resolution appropriating dollars for the pay and subsistence of the crews, and for the wear, losses, expenditure of ammunition, and other current and contingent expences of the naval armament.

These two resolutions having been agreed to, the committee rose, the House concurred in them, and a bill was directed to be reported accordingly.

The House then, on motion of Mr. LIVINGSTON, went into a Committee of the Whole on the bill supplementary to the act for establishing the Judicial Courts of the United States; but not having gone through the bill the committee rose, and had leave to sit again.

Adjourned.

A Great Bargain.

WILL BE SOLD, if applied for immediately, Twenty Thousand Dollars in Bills of Credit, upon interest at five per cent. per annum, now lodged in the Treasury, and endorsed by the United States, with a promise to "pay the interest annually."

Enquire at the Office of THOMAS McEWEN & Co. march 13—3t

Wanted to live in the Country,

About five miles from this city, a sober steady Man who understands gardening and the management of a few acres of land, and would not object to attend a couple of horses. Such a one may meet with liberal wages by applying at the office of this Gazette.

N. B. None need apply but those of unexceptionable characters.

March 13. dtf

NANKEENS.

Ten thousand pieces Nankeens,
FOR SALE on a liberal credit, by
SAMUEL HAYS,
No. 129, Chesnut Street.
march 7 eodtf

St. Croix Sugars.

26 hogsheads best ST. CROIX SUGAR,
FOR SALE BY
JOHN NIXON & Co.
Feb. 9. fm&wtf

Latest Foreign News,

BY THE HALIFAX PACKET, ARRIVED AT N. YORK.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

PROTEST
AGAINST THE BILL OF REQUISITION.

HOUSE OF LORDS, DIE MERC. January 10.

The question was put, that this bill be committed.

It was carried in the affirmative.

DISSENTIENT,

Because, we conceive that in the present circumstances no grant of money by parliament, can alone be sufficient to extricate the country from its alarming and critical situation.

When the exigencies of the State are such, as to demand large supplies from the people, our duty is not confined to the bare consideration of the necessity of the case or the mode of levying the money. We are not from the pressure of circumstances and the approach of danger, hastily to concur in laying additional burthens on our fellow subjects, without insuring to the public a wise application of the money so raised, and without due precautions for directing the efforts of the people to their only legitimate object, the benefit of the community. A neglect of this most important of all parliamentary duties must produce, and in our opinions, it has already produced consequences the most fatal to the dignity of the nation, the stability of the government, and the interests of the people. In the unconditional compliance with the demands of the executive government again proposed as the remedy, we perceive the real and fatal source of the evil. Year after year his majesty's ministers have grounded their application to parliament upon the urgency of the occasion, and the extraordinary exigencies of the State. To satisfy their demands, to enable them to encounter the dangers, and remove the difficulties in which we are involved, every article of luxury or convenience have been taxed, the resources of the country have been exhausted, and sums unparalleled in history, have been entrusted to their disposal; yet, year after year the occasion has been more urgent, the exigencies more pressing, the difficulties more alarming, and the dangers more immediate. The security of the nation has been shaken in the same proportion as the prosperity of the country has been impaired, external danger has kept pace with internal distress, and the exertions which have impoverished the people, and shaken our credit, have purchased nothing but the loss of national honor, the defection of allies, and the failure of every great object of the war.

If the whole force of Great Britain and Ireland, aided by grants, lavished beyond the example of the most improvident times, assisted by the most powerful monarchs of Europe, has proved insufficient in the hands of ministers to secure the blessings of peace, or even to avert the present awful circumstances of the country, it seems inconsistent with reason, to expect that the painful efforts of an empire, whose means are exhausted by taxation, whose spirits are damped by failure, and whose affections are in part alienated by oppression, can, without a single ally, under the direction of the same men resist with effect, a powerful and exasperated enemy, elated with success, strengthened by conquest, and supported by the united powers of Holland and of Spain. In this situation of affairs, to persevere in the system which has produced it, to confide in the ministers who, with the aid of so many millions, have been unable to avert it, evinces, in our opinion, a total disregard of the common maxims of prudence, a wanton rejection of the lessons of experience, and a determined neglect of the most important of our parliamentary duties. Under the persuasion, therefore, that the dangers with which we are now threatened, are the result of force, directed to objects at once impracticable and foreign to the interests of this country; and that they are the necessary consequences of a misapplication of the public money, and the natural fruits of the incapacity and profusion of those to whom it has been improvidently entrusted, we deemed it our duty not to sanction any grant to the executive government until a pledge was given to the House, by the removal of his his majesty's ministers, of a complete alteration in his councils. We held it neither just to impose, nor reasonable to require any additional sacrifices from our fellow subjects until some prospect was held out to the people of a reform of that house which had granted and a censure of those ministers who have lavished sums so enormous, without any benefit resulting to the community. We thought that while his majesty's affairs were conducted by those who originally engaged in this calamitous contest, and who can neither carry on war or negociation with honor advantage, or success, no grant of money by parliament, no sacrifices on the part of the people, could afford a reasonable hope that the blessings of peace would be speedily restored, or permanently secured. We imagined, that until some earnest was given of a radical alteration of the system of terror and coercion in Ireland, of the repeal of the two bills, the one intitled "An act for the safety and preservation of his majesty's person and government against treasonable and seditious practices and attempts," and the other intitled "An act for the more effectually preventing seditious meetings and assemblies," of œconomy in public expenditure, and diminution of the enormous patronage and influence of the crown, we are not warranted in expecting that cheerful cooperation of the people, which being at once the indication and result of a reciprocal confidence between the government and the governed, can only be restored by the restoration of the ancient and happy practice of the constitution undisfigured by coercive laws—of a parliament speaking the sense of the people—and a ministry dependant on the voice of the parliament.

Because it appears to us that any attempt to raise the supplies within the year, in the present exhausted state of the country, must be attended with the greatest difficulty and danger.

Because were we to allow that the principle of raising the supplies by contribution instead of loan, was just, wise and expedient, yet under the present ministers it would appear to us attended with the most danger, as the real expenses of the year have generally exceeded by nearly one half their calculation; and thus any regulation for the equal distribution of the burthen which we adopted upon the first calculation, might be rendered ineffectual by subsequent and more extensive demands.

Because if the bill is intended as a tax upon expenditure its retrospective operation is arbitrary and cruel in the extreme, and altogether repugnant to the usages of our ancestors, the faith of civilized governments and the common dictates of humanity and justice. If it is intended as a tax upon income, in our opinion the criterion proposed is objectionable and inadequate; and above all, as income is of various descriptions, sometimes arising from permanent and disposable capital, sometimes from precarious or temporary possessions, and sometimes from labor, talents or industry we deem any attempt to proportion the burthen to the income, in itself unjust, unequal and impolitic. If it is intended as a tax upon property, neither in the original criterion, viz. the assessed taxes of '95, nor in the proposed relief, do we recognize any just principle of taxation, or perceive any fair or adequate method suggested for the imperial distribution of the burthen.

Because the relief proposed in the bill, to those who may, by the increase of their assessed taxes, be liable to pay more than the tenth of their income, requires a disclosure of their pecuniary circumstances, which is contrary to the customs and prejudices of Englishmen, and repugnant to the principles of the constitution; and which to persons engaged in commerce or trade, must be attended with yet greater inconveniencies than the payment of more than the 10th of their income. Furthermore; this regulation appears to us an indirect breach of the faith so often and so sacredly pledged to the stock-holder, for should the whole of the income of any individual claiming this relief consist in a dividend upon stock, a tenth of that income is immediately sacrificed, and the dividend, in violation of the faith of the parliament and the nation, diminished one tenth by the intervention of government.

Because the operation of this bill is not confined to a definite period of time, but by the most wanton violation of justice, remains in force till a certain sum is produced; thus exacting from the honest the deficiencies which may have been occasioned by accidental circumstances, by the designs or the distress of individuals, by the favor or the neglect of the collectors.

HOLLAND.
OXFORD.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SATURDAY, DEC. 30.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

Mr. Tierney asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he expected to receive orders for delivering to that house a message respecting the contributions of the royal family towards the public expenditure? If no such message was in contemplation, he should hold it his duty to move, in the committee of ways and means, on Wednesday next, for the repeal of all those clauses by which the royal family were exempted from paying paying to the general contribution.

No notice was taken by the minister, either of this question, or of the intimation by which it was followed.

ROME, Dec. 9.

The Pope has acknowledged the *Cis Alpine* republic, and averted an expending war.

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 24.

Great discontents prevail among the mercantile people in Sweden, on account of the total failure of the French in their engagements, a want of faith now so generally known, that there remains scarcely any commercial intercourse between France and Sweden.

FRANKFORT, Dec. 30.

Citizen Hoffman, late professor at Ment, has published a letter to the inhabitants of that city, in which he congratulates them that the French have acknowledged them as brothers; and assures them, that under the protection of the French, Mentz will become one of the first commercial cities in the world.

UPPER RHINE, Dec. 30.

The Bayreuth Gazette states, that the French will only keep possession of Mentz till the congress for the peace of the empire shall be ended, and the sum of sixty millions be paid, which France requires of the German empire, as an indemnification for the expences of the war. This, however, is not much believed.

LONDON, Jan. 11.

It is said, that the executive directory has refused to enter on any kind of negociation with the commissioners from America, now at Paris, unless 400,000 dollars are paid as a preliminary *douceur* for the honor of a conference. When the last accounts left Paris, the commissioners had not been admitted to any public audience, tho' they have now been there near two months.

January 12.

By the Wallingham Packet arrived at Falmouth from Lisbon, the following intelligence has been received:—

"Lord St. Vincent had sent home all the men of war except the Ville de Paris, and four frigates, the Emerald, the Lively, Aurora, &c. which were at Lisbon when the Wallingham sailed. Accounts were received at Lisbon a few days previous to the sailing of the Wallingham, that Sir John Orde, who was then cruizing off Cadiz with a squadron of line of battle ships, had fallen in with a fleet of merchantmen, very richly laden, under the convoy of three Spanish line of battle ships, bound from the Havanna to Cadiz; the result was, that Sir John had captured the three Spanish line of battle ships, and greatest part, if not the whole of the fleet. The greatest credit was given to the above information at Lisbon, insomuch that the arrival of the Spanish men of war and merchantmen were daily expected there when the packet sailed from thence. Admiral Parker had hoisted his flag on board his Majesty's ship Princess Royal, and had sailed with six line of battle ships, to cruize off Cadiz, and to supercede Sir John Orde. Both squadrons would form a very strong fleet, and Admiral Parker was to have the command, to cruize off and on Cadiz bay, and watch the motions of the Spaniards lying there, but who durst not venture out, tho' so much superior in numbers to the British fleet. A fleet of merchant vessels had sailed from Lisbon the 26th ult. under the convoy of his majesty's ship Irresistable, of 74 guns, G. Martin, and a sloop of war, for England; they consisted of fourteen or sixteen vessels. The emigrant army was down at Cath Kies Fort, all in readiness and expected to be embarked for England, in transports waiting to receive them, having been all marked and numbered. It was reported at Lisbon that Lord St. Vincent had declared to the Court of Portugal, that in case of their refusal of supplies of provisions and water to the British fleet, he would reduce the city of Lisbon to ruins. His lordship was in perfect health when the packet sailed. His Majesty's Packet, King George, capt. Bell, had safely arrived at Lisbon two days previous to the sailing of the Walsingham.

January 13.

At a very early hour this morning, we received French papers to the 9th inst.

These journals are chiefly filled, as for the most part they have lately been, with a collection of official Philippics against the government of England. A proclamation of the executive directory, issued on the 6th, and of which we have inserted a translation in our subsequent columns, calls on the mass of the people to contribute to the loan against England, and states the probability of success in the projected expedition as a consequence of our immense debt.

January, 15.

Notice was given at the Bank of England on Saturday that Books will be opened and receipts given for voluntary subscriptions in aid of the Requisition which is now passed into a law. The law directs that the bank shall give receipts for sums that may be paid in, together with duplicates, if required. If only receipts without duplicates, shall be required, then such payments shall be deemed and taken to be the voluntary contribution, but if they require a second receipt or duplicate, such second receipt or duplicate shall be deemed and taken to be in advance of the new assessment; and which receipt shall upon delivery to the collector, be an acquittance of such assessment as for as the same will go; all sums above the actual assessment to be deemed and taken as the voluntary contribution of the person or persons. That the sums to be paid into the bank in this way over and above the amount of the assessment of each individual may be great, we hope that splendid examples will be set from the highest places. Their Majesties and all the court have been called upon in a strong and pointed way. The people expect sacrifices, and this day we trust will prove that there is a just feeling in the higher circles of the burthens they have brought upon the country.

Admiral Thompson and Sir Roger Curtis have received directions to hold themselves in readiness to sail at a moment's warning, in consequence of information received by Government of the designs of the enemy.

Now that Parliament is adjourned, the loan is immediately to be settled, Mr. Pitt has fortunately made a competition, so that the terms will be more advantageous than he might otherwise expect. According to present report, he is to call only for 14 millions.

The new measure of the directory against England Manufactures and Commerce, will be felt as severely by Lloyd's Coffee House as by the Weavers of Lancashire. It is impossible under such an anathema to insure any ship, since an English pocket handkerchief would ensure the confiscation of the cargo.

It is a most dreadful blow to our trade; but it is ridiculous to charge it upon the enemy as a thing unprecedented. It is our maritime maxim returned upon us. It is that assertion of power which we have always made when we were able; which gave rise to the armed neutrality in the last war, and made us obnoxious to all the commercial powers, at the outset of our mad career in this war.

Duel—Yesterday morning, a duel was fought in Hyde Park, between the earl of Lonsdale, and sir Frederick Vane, bart. in which the latter was wounded. This is the second time they have met on the same quarrel. The public will recollect that they fought about three months ago.

January 18.

The duke of Wirtemberg succeeds, by the death of his father, to his hereditary dominions, and to 5238 copies of the holy bible, in different languages.

The nett income remitted to this country from the king's dominions in Hanover, is estimated at about 30,000l. a year on a general average. But during the first seven years of the present reign, his majesty did not receive a sixpence revenue on account of the ravages caused by the war in that country. The Bishoprick is calculated to nett about 17,000l. a year.

Mr. Pitt's taxes occur so frequently, and stick so close to us, that they have been compared to the envenomed shaft which Dejanira gave to Hercules. They so continually stare you in the face, that they resemble a bad portrait affixed in our sitting room.

A revision of our penal laws is said to be under consideration, as well of those relative to usury, objects which ought long since to have attracted the notice of our government.

The ministers, it was yesterday reported in the city have received some private advices from Hamburgh, stating that, in consequence of a strong intimation from the magistrates, the inhabitants were removing their valuable effects to Altona, and to the territory of Prussia. We do not guarantee this report; but it appears certain from every account, that the fate of this and the other Hanseatic cities stand on the precarious "hazard of a die!"

The merchants who were about to ship their goods for Hamburgh, are all at present at a stand. The intercourse between Great-Britain and the continent, through the channel of the Elbe, is in fact suspended, until the fate of that part of Germany shall be finally decided!

An Italian paper quotes the following observation, as literally copied from a letter of Mirabeau to the French ministry, in 1789:—"Do you know what will be the consequence of the first continental war? You will take the low countries, the emperor will take Bavaria; you will have the Milanese, and he the estates of Venice."

The Proclamation of the commissary of the directory to the people of the Pas de Calais, contains, among some local ordinances, one passage which is to be taken in its *literal sense*, and not as a *rhetorical flourish* of the writer, seems nearly to fix the term when the invasion of this country is to be attempted by the enemy:

"*Before the first leaves shall appear on the trees*, the tri colored standard," says he shall float on the territory of England; and in atchieving a general peace, we shall at the same time contribute to the happiness of a people who deserve to be free!"

[We have been favored with London papers to the 22d January inclusive, from which the following articles are selected.]

LONDON, January 18.

Extract of a letter from citizen Joseph Buonaparte, ambassador from the French republic to the court of Rome.

"FLORENCE, 11th Nivose—Dec. 31.

"On the 6th, three persons came to me, and informed me that a revolution was preparing, and that the insurgents hoped for the support of the French government. I replied, that the epoch of general peace did not appear to me to be that in which my government ought to take any part in events which might retard it; and, as the French minister, I enjoined them not to come again to me with such propositions.

"Next evening, Chevalier Azarra told me confidentially, that he had just been with the secretary of state, and that it appeared probable some imprudent persons were about to attempt a rising, which would be as unsuccessful, on account of the smallness of their numbers and their foolish conduct, as that which was undertaken some months before.

"I learned at the Marchioness Massimi's, that four of the leaders of the affair were the spies of the government, which had taken measures to defeat the plan of the insurgents.

"I was informed, the day after, that a patrol had been attacked by about sixty men, and that two of the Pope's dragoons were killed. Several of the insurgents wore the French cockade, and left, as it were by mistake, a bagful, which were scattered about the place of meeting.

"I went immediately to the secretary of state, and told him, that, far from opposing the arresting of the persons who had assumed the French cockade, I came to request him to arrest all who did not belong to the French legation. These amounted only to the number of eight, and I pointed them out to him.

"The Cardinal secretary of state went to dinner, and begged me to come to him at six in the evening, along with the Spanish minister.

"On my return home, I found general Duphoz and adjutant-general Sherlock waiting for me. We conversed upon the childish attempt that had been made at a revolution during the night before. We had sat down to table, when the porter came and informed me, that about 20 men had presented themselves at the gate of the palace, crying *Live the Republic! Live the Roman People!*—One of them insisted upon speaking to me. He had the appearance of a wild fanatic, and said, *We are free, and we come to demand the support of France!* I replied to this extravagance by desiring him and his companions to retire immediately from the jurisdiction of France, or otherwise that I should take strong measures against them. The military men who were with me endeavored to convince them of the folly of their enterprize. Were the government of the town, said general Sherlock, to point a single cannon against you, what would become of your pretended liberty?—Upon this the man withdrew.

"A French artist came and informed me, that the number of the multitude without increased, that handfuls of piastres were thrown among them, and that the entry to the court was obstructed. I dressed myself in my diplomatic robe, and went into the court, accompanied by the French officers who were then in the palace. I heard a long discharge of musketry. A party of cavalry had penetrated into the midst of the French jurisdiction. A great multitude filled the court, and the different stairs. But soon there were only to be seen persons dying, intimidated fugitives, and enthusiasts.

"A company of fusileers closely followed the cavalry. I ordered them to withdraw from the jurisdiction of France. They fell back some steps, and the people advanced in proportion as they retired. But it appeared that the Papal troops had only made this retrograde motion in order to be out of pistol shot, and to be able to make a general discharge of their muskets without any danger to themselves. I desired the aid de-camp Beauharnais, and another French officer, to endeavor to quiet the multitude; and I advanced myself, along with generals Duphoz and Sherlock, to invite the troops to cease their fire, and to return without the French jurisdiction.

"Brave general Duphoz, accustomed to conquer, threw himself among the bayonets of the Pope's soldiers; he prevented one from charging, and avoided the push of another. He was simply a mediator between the two parties. Misled by his courage, he proceeded as far as the gate *Septiminiana*.—A soldier fired a musket at him, and the contents lodged in his breast. He fell, but rose again, and supported himself on his sabre. A second shot extended him prostrate on the pavement, and about fifty was directed against his inanimate body. This brave warrior was to have been married the next day to my sister in-law.

"Though protected by all the French artists and military I could gather round me, I regained the palace with much difficulty, which I found filled with the dead, the dying, and the fugitives.

"It was now six o'clock. Two hours had passed since the massacre of general Duphoz, and no member of the government had yet appeared. The Spanish and Tuscan ministers only, hastened to the French palace, to share in the dangers to which I was exposed.

"No official correspondence took place between the Cardinal Secretary of State and me until eleven in the evening. I thought it my duty to leave Rome; and at six in the morning of the 9th Nivose, fourteen hours after the murder of general Duphoz, I quitted this criminal city, to go to Florence."

Joseph Buonaparte concludes his letter by stating, that he will soon repair to Paris, to give farther accounts of the crimes of the court of Rome, and to consult with the Directory on the punishment which ought to be inflicted upon a government as cruel as perfidious.

January 22.

We stopped the Press on Saturday, to inform our readers of the arrival of the Prince of Orange Packet from Cuxhaven, whence she sailed on the 11th inst.—She brought no intelligence from Hamburgh, the Mail between those two places having been detained, it was supposed, by the quantity of ice in the Elbe, which prevented it from passing.

The report in circulation on Friday, of the arrival of Mr. Fraser, the British Envoy, from Hamburgh, and of an order having been issued previou to his departure for all the British merchants there to follow him, made us anxious to publish the circumstance. It is difficult to discover what could have given rise to this report, unless it be an article in the French Journal *Le Surveillant*, which states, that a messenger had been sent by the Directory on special affairs to Hamburgh. If the communication of the French Plenipotentiaries to the members of the Congress, and the satisfactory assurance which the King of Prussia announced to them, that he had received from the French government, be no security against an event of such extensive injury to the Northern Powers of Europe, the jealousy of his Prussian majesty, and the interests of contiguous states, make it improbable that the Directory would attempt what they could hardly hope would succeed.

An Italian messenger arrived in the Prince of Orange.

Three Hamburgh mails became due yesterday, none of which had arrived when this paper was put to press.

There has been some misunderstanding at the Bank about the interpretation of the act of Parliament. It was supposed that persons only could subscribe who paid down the whole sum which they affixed to their names. Books, however, are now opened for subscriptions to be paid by instalments, a measure more generally convenient to individuals, and equally beneficial to the state.

The Speaker's subscription of 2000l. at the Bank was made on Saturday.

Admiral Colpoys's liberality in subscribing 1000l. to the fund for aiding the state, cannot be too much praised. It ought to be held up to admiration, and we hope it will produce imitation.

It is supposed that all the corporations in the Kingdom will follow the example of Hull. That corporation has liberally subscribed 500l.

Sir C. Thompson will be joined off Plymouth by the Robust, Mars, Marlborough and Terrible, of 74 guns, and St. Albans, of 64, which have been some days waiting in the sound, when this force will consist of 13 sail of the line, and six frigates, five of which were likewise in the Sound. The Grand Fleet of 27 ships of the line, it is stated, will sail, under admiral Lord Bridport, about the middle of the week.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

[*From the last Paris Papers.*]

MADRID, Dec. 18.

We are looking with much impatience for the conclusion of a general peace. Spain suffers from the war more than any other power, because the war exposes her to many dangers in her distant possessions, and because it intercepts her treasures from the American continent. On this account the exchequer is in the utmost penury; so that the government is obliged to have recourse to the most burthensome expedients. It has just negociated a third loan, bearing an interest of five per cent for the year, with the allurement of a lottery, giving a profit of three per cent on the total of the capital borrowed.

This resource will soon be exhausted if the war be prolonged, because the reimbursement depends on the arrival of our precious metals from America, in which the King has always a share. It would be still worse for us, if it should happen, as we have been given to understand, that the Directory of France, justly discontented with the conduct of the United States, should come to a breach with them; we should then certainly be the first, and perhaps the only victim of the rupture.

Paris, Jan. 5. The minister of foreign affairs gave yesterday a grand entertainment to Buonaparte and his spouse, which lasted from eight o'clock in the evening till six in the morning. The banquet, the music, and the dances were magnificent. At midnight five hundred ladies sat down to supper. Buonaparte, in a plain habit stood behind his wife, and Talleyrand Perigord (the minister) was beside him.

The first toast was, "To the republic," which was announced by discharges of artillery. The next was, "The female citizen who bears the name most dear to glory." This compliment to Madame Buonaparte, was received with enthusiasm. The next was, "to the descent upon England," this was also most loudly applauded. Lais sung an air, the tenor of which was, that, to go to England, it was not necessary "to drink up the sea;" and Dugazon another, importing "that one cup more should be drank as a token of victory." Buonaparte, who seldom smiles, entered with uncommon gaiety into these sentiments.

L'Echo de la Republique.

PLYMOUTH, January 20.

A Meeting of the American merchants was held this day, for the purpose of making application to Government to grant a convoy for outward bound American ships.

Two ladies in Holland have subscribed 30,000 pounds each, towards the re-establishment of the Dutch Marine.

It has been currently reported that a signal was on Wnduesday last made at the Telegraph on Maker Heights, importing that the French fleet in Brest-Water, which consists of twelve sail of the line and several frigates, had made a movement, apparently with an intention of putting to sea; should the signal have been rightly construed, it is probable the intelligence must have been conveyed to the telegraph at Lizard point, by one of the frigates which have been cruising off brest, to watch the motions of the French fleet; no further information, however, has yet been received on this head; intelligence of the above ships being ready to sail having, some days since, been brought by the Boadicea frigate, there is a possibility that they may have put to sea.

By yesterday's Mail.

BOSTON, March 6.

The violent entry of the French into Mentz has excited much alarm. It is said to be contrary to the new treaty.

It is not clear that the congress at Rastadt has deprived the king of England of Hanover. It is merely reported, that it will be a subject of discussion.

Our papers are late enough to convince us, that the story of a French squadron being at sea is untrue.

The government of France well arranged their plan for the capture of vessels with British merchandize, so as that it should be as unjust and cruel as possible. The plan was long settled, and orders were sent to the West-Indies, in order that on the whole ocean, at the same instant, the poor honest, unsuspecting neutral might become a prey. Many condemnations of American vessels, on this plea, took place in the Islands, before we had news of it through the common channel.

Capt. Loring has arrived in 90 days from the Cape of Good Hope. There had been a very serious insurrection of the sailors in the British ships there. Ad. Pringle, was confined. Believing the seamen might carry his ship to sea, he had got a letter to the commander of the fort, desiring him to destroy the ship, notwithstanding his being on board, if an attempt should be made to carry her off. Red hot shots were prepared. But on the hearing of the quelling of the mutiny in England (of which this was a ramification) and of the executions, subordination was easily restored.

BALTIMORE, March 10.

[The following letter was received by the editor, from Mr. William Gordon, supercargo of the ship Charles, capt. Nickerson, of this port, which entirely contradicts Victor Hugue's arret.]

Point-Petre (Guad.) Feb. 9, 1798.

Mr. DOBBIN,

Inclosed is a proclamation of the agents of the executive directory of the French republic to the windward islands, setting forth in the second paragraph, that the major of the navy addressed capt. Nickerson, of the ship Charles, of Baltimore, myself supercargo, and that we answered him insolently, &c.

I solemnly declare to you, that he did not speak to me on that day, or I to him, nor for two weeks before this affair happened, more than a salute in passing—nor is there one word of it true respecting the king, &c. It also mentions a meeting of the Americans to deliberate if they would hoist their colors, on the day of the death of the late king of France—let me tell you that there was no such meeting, nor was it ever talked of.

I remain, your's, &c.

WILLIAM GORDON.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

WEDNESDAY EVENING, *March* 14.

Further Extracts from English Papers.

IMPORTANT.

In the Council of Five Hundred (22d Nivose, Jan. 11), Villers made a report from the select committee to whom the message of the directory of the 15th Nivose, respecting vessels laden with English merchandize, was referred.—He said, it was the interest of all the powers of Europe to unite in support of the liberty of Maritime commerce, which the government of England would appropriate exclusively to itself.

The reporter also noticed the last Speech of the President of the American Congress, in which, he observed, the same principles were professed as those of the English minister; and he concluded that these two governments had agreed together to calumniate France.

The plan of the resolution proposed by Villers contained three articles, which the council adopted without any opposition:

1. The situation of Ships and vessels, with regard to their quality as neuter or enemies shall hereafter be determined by their cargoes. Therefore, every vessel found at sea, laden, or partly laden, with the produce or Merchandize of England, or of any of its possessions, is declared a lawful prize, whoever be the proprietors of the said produce or Merchandize.

2. No foreign vessel, which, in the course of her voyage, may have entered an English port, shall be permitted to enter any port of the Republic, unless she is in distress, in which case, she shall be obliged to sail as soon as the causes of her distress shall have ceased.

3. This resolution shall be sent to the council of Ancients by a messenger of state.

Buonaparte, the Ambassador, has taken his seat in the Council of Ancients as Deputy from Corsica.

ENGLISH MERCHANDIZE IN FRANCE.

As some of *our* jacobin papers see in the measure of desperate extortion just put in execution by the French directory, the completion of *our* ruin, and the extinction of our manufactures; we think it our duty to dissipate such melancholy apprehensions by the following plain statement.

The great export of British manufactures in any year since the peace, excepting the last, was that of 1792. It amounted to	£.18,335,851
The export of the year ending the 5th January 1797, was -	19,102,220
Excess above the exports of 1792	£.766,369

The *direct* exportation of British manufactures to France in 1792, was 743,280l. The same, in the year ending in January 1797, was 30l.—consequently the *decrease* was 743,250l.; a decrease which might have been held out, with some degree of reason, to our manufacturers as a cause of apprehension. But we trust the loss of the remaining 30l. will not ruin the comerce of Great-Britain.

While the climate of France shall continue the same, the French will probably not consent to go naked; and until their own manufactures shall revive, we may fairly hope that they will, notwithstanding the most *rigorous* execution of the law of the 10th of Brumaire, continue to resort to the only market which is able to supply them.

It remains to be seen, what will be the feelings and conduct of NEUTRAL NATIONS, upon the message of the directory which has followed this proceeding, and which announces measures so outrageously injurious to their interests, rights and honour—measures made up of injustice and folly, such as the history of the madness and tyranny of the worst governments in the worst ages in the world cannot parallel.

Citizens Sane and Guignau, the chief constructors of the prodigious machine which is to convey the Army of England to our coast, have been arrested at Brest. Their arrest is attributed to their having remonstrated against the feasibility of citizen Monge's project.

Four deputies sent from Ementhal to the canton of Berne, charged to declare that their Communes would not take up arms against the French, were put under arrest. Forty Communes immediately declared themselves in a state of insurrection, until the Deputies were released.

List of Captures, from the Gazette.

Le Vengeur, of 12 guns and 72 men, quite new, had taken nothing; out eight days from Ostend.

L'Inconcevable of 8 guns and 55 men, from Dunkirk, out ten days, had taken nothing.

Le Cheri corvette of 26 guns, twelve, eighteen and twenty-four pounders [mixed] on the main deck, and 330 men, out fourteen days from Nantz, had taken nothing—sunk by the Pomone, capt. Reynolds.

L'Emprunt Forcée of 2 carriage guns, 6 swivels and 25 men, out one day and had taken nothing.

Le Daphne corvette of 30 guns and 270 men (formerly one of his Majesty's sloops of war, captured in the year 1795); sailed from Bourdeaux 26th Dec. and taken by the Anson two days afterwards on her passage for Guadaloupe with dispatches and 77 passengers. She had taken the American ship Active, of and from Baltimore, laden with sugar, rum, &c. bound to Hamburgh; which the Anson retook and sent into Plymouth.

The proprietors of estates in St. Domingo, now in London, have offered 400,000l. to Government, towards the expenses incurred in that island.

The Author of the Marseillois Hymn has presented the Directory and Councils with a 'Hymn of Vengeance.' The Cannibals are now singing this detestable blood whoop at every Theatre, and in every street.

Alluding to the murder of the Sanscullottes General Duphoz, one of the Paris Journals says, "The hand of Crime has tolled the last hour of Rome, and the Old Capitol, more loaded with iniquity than with years, is about, by its fall, to avenge the death of a Hero."

☞ In MILO, 4th paragraph, line 9, before "the Scheldt," insert *opening of*.

GAZETTE MARINE LIST.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

CLEARED.

Brig Fly, Brice,	Rotterdam
Rambler, Odlin,	St. Thomas
Schr. Hetty, Mason,	Savannah
Sloop Perfect, Vaneck,	C. N. Mole
Sylva, Macey,	Nantucket
Lydia, Stubbs,	do.
Laura, Barker,	do.

Captain John Rodgers, master of the ship Friendship, laden with 2,360 barrels of flour, the property of Mr. John Smith of Baltimore, the 8th January on his passage to Basseterre, Guadaloupe was taken and carried into Point-Petre by a French privateer. Capt. Rodgers concludes a lengthy account of the base and tyrannical treatment he received, with the following very novel and extraordinary reason for condemning American property—

"N. B. They made a plea of condemning the vessel on account of the owners receiving Porcupine's Gazette."

The ship Alexander, Brown, of this port, has arrived at St. Bartholomews, from Bourdeaux.

The brig Diana, capt. Kirkbride, of this port, has arrived at Leghorn from Liverpool.

The barque Adriana, Captain Lee, from hence has arrived at London.

The ship Clothier, Gardner, is arrived at Hoylake, and the brig Altona, Neth, at Hamburgh.

Capt. Shaw, from Surinam, left there the ship George, Rice, of and for this port to sail in three weeks—at the mouth of the river was boarded by 3 British cruisers, and on the passage by a French and British privateer and treated civilly by all.—Feb. 18 spoke the brig Newton, Riley, from hence to St. Croix, out 14 days, then in sight of Anguilla, all well.

The schooner Elizabeth, one of the Port-au-Prince fleet, is lost on Cape Henlopen; cargo saved, with damage.

Capt. Shaw from Jacquemell, left there the schr. Alciope, Rice, of this port, to sail in 3 weeks—schooner Pegase, Foster, for N. York, in 3 days, and 15 others (as published last week)—the schooner Citizen of Baltimore sent in, had been liberated and proceeded to Petit Goave—off Tiberoon was boarded from two British cruisers, and off the Bahamas by two ditto, and treated civilly by all; 4 days since, of the Capes of Virginia, spoke a brig from the Havanna bound to this port..

The sloop Sally and Jane, Small, from the Havanna was boarded the after coming out by the privateer brig Lark. of New-Providence, and after examination wished safe home.

Capt. Lee, in the Mercury, arrived at Baltimore from Rotterdam.

Feb. 5, in lat. 22, 30, N. and long 36, 30, west, fell in with a fleet of seventeen sail, at six A. M. was boarded by a boat from one of them; it was an armed ship called the Union, and belonging to Bristol last from Cork, and bound to St. Vincent's they all sailed from Cork the 10th of January, under convoy, with about 150 sail more, but got dispersed the 17th of January in a very heavy gale of wind.

Baltimore, March 10.

ARRIVED.

Ship Charles, Nickerson,	W. Indies
Sloop Charles, Miller,	do.
Ship Felicity, Smith,	Amsterdam
Mary, Nye,	Rotterdam
Brig Mercury, Lee,	do.
Schr. Treaty, Barns,	W. Indies

BOSTON, March. 1.

Burk, the "Wild Irishman" is employed by Greenleafin writing sedition.—*Callander* a Scotch vagrant has written a libel on General Washington.—It seems then, our revolution has not secured us from the importation of Foreign Convicts, who abuse our Government, traduce our worthies, and grow great men—It is not then without reason that the facetious Peter Pindar says of this country—

Where every scoundrel CONVICT is a KING.

NEW-THEATRE.

THIS EVENING, March 14,

Will be presented, the Comedy of

The COUNTRY GIRL.

With the Comic Opera of

The PRIZE;

Or, 2, 5, 3, 8.

Ran away from the subscriber, on the 14th inst. two indented Irish Servant Men: Thomas M'Guire, about 25 years of age, and 5 feet 8 inches high, robust, stout, and well made, short black hair, remarkable for a scar on one of his temples; he is a forward, deceitful, vicious, and unprincipled fellow, and decoyed from my service Jeffry Corbet, about the same age and height, but of a milder disposition, and more slender make, short brown hair; their working apparel was blue cloth over jackets, lined with coarse brown linen, check and brown linen shirts, grey yarn stockings, mixed twilled grey cloth trowsers, and russett leather shoes; they have other cloathing which altogether gives them the appearance of seafaring men, but have been brought up to the farming business; no doubt will have forged passes and change their names and apparel as convenient, and have taken the post road to Philapelphia, I purchased them the last fall of capt. Rollins, in Baltimore. I will give Fifty Dollars for securing them so that I get them, and will pay all reasonable charges if brought home, or if separated, Thirty Dollars for Thomas, and Twenty for Jeffry.

ARTHUR BRYAN,

Head of Wye, Talbot County—March 7.

march 14. 3aw3w

FOR SALE,

By WHARTON & LEWIS,

No 115 South Front Street.

A quantity of Tanner's Oil,
4th proof Jamaica Rum, } entitled to
1st and 2d proof Brandy, } drawback.
Madeira Wine,
Juniper Berries, &c. &c.

Feb. 9. codtf

FOR SALE,

400 barrels BEEF.

Enquire of

George Pennock, or
Gid. Hill Wells.

march 8. eotf

NOTICE.

WHEREAS a Certificate to HANNAH SHELLY, of Oxted Cottage, in the County of Surrey, in Great-Britain, Spinster, or her assigns, for two thousand five hundred and sixty-two dollars twenty-three cents, in the deferred stock of the United States, was lost in the ship Peggy, Capt. Hyer, bound from Philadelphia to London in the year 1796. The subscriber, the said Hannah Shelly, intends to apply to the Treasury of the United States, for a renewal of the said Certificate.

HANNAH SHELLY.

Feb. 23. 12w6w.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

MARCH 1, 1798.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

IN pursuance of the Act of Congress passed on the sixth day of July one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, entitled "An Act laying duties on Stamped Vellum, Parchment and Paper", and the Act passed on the fifteenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, entitled "An Act to postpone for a limited time the commencement of the duties imposed by the Act entitled "An Act laying Duties on Stamped Vellum, Parchment and Paper", that from and after the first day of July ensuing, the several Stamped Duties hereafter enumerated, will be levied and collected throughout the United States.

I.

For every skin or piece of Vellum or Parchment, or sheet or piece of Paper, upon which shall be written or printed any or either of the instruments or writings following—to wit:

	Dls	Cts.	Mls.
Any Certificate of Naturalization,	5		
Any Licence to practice, or Certificate of the admission, enrolment or registry of any Counsellor, Solicitor, Attorney, Advocate or Proctor, in any Court of the United States,	10		
Provided, that a Certificate in any one of the Courts of the United States for one of the said Offices, shall so far as relates to the payment of the duty aforesaid, be a sufficient admission in all the Courts of the United States, for each and every of the said offices.			
Any Grant or Letters Patent, under the seal or authority of the United States (except for lands granted for military services)	4		
Any exemplification or certified copy of any such grant or letters patent, (except for lands granted for military services)	2		
Any Charter-Party, Bottomry, or Respondentia Bond,	1		
Any Receipt or discharge for or on account of any Legacy left by any Will or other testamentary instrument, or for any share or part of a personal estate divided by force of any statute of distributions, other than to the Wife, Children or Grand Children of the person deceased, the amount whereof shall be above the value of Fifty Dollars, and shall not exceed the value of One Hundred Dollars,		25	
When the amount thereof shall exceed the value of One Hundred Dollars and shall not exceed five hundred dollars,		50	
And for every further sum of Five Hundred Dollars, the additional sum of	1		
Any Policy of Insurance or instrument in nature thereof, on any ship, vessel or goods insured from one district to another in the United States,		25	
From the United States to any foreign port or place, when the sum for which Insurance is made shall not exceed five hundred dollars,		50	
When the sum insured shall exceed five hundred dollars,	1		
Any Exemplification, of what nature soever, that shall pass the seal of any Court, other than such as it may be the duty of the Clerk of such Court to furnish for the use of the United States or some particular state,		50	
Any Bond, bill single or penal, foreign or inland bill of exchange, promissory note or other note, other than any recognizance, bill, bond, or other obligation or contract, made to or with the United States or any state, or for their use respectively,			
If above twenty dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars,		10	
If above one hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars,		25	
If above five hundred dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars,		50	
And if above one thousand dollars,		75	
Provided, that if any bonds or notes shall be payable at or within sixty days, such bonds or notes shall be subject to only two fifth parts of the duty aforesaid—viz.			
If above twenty dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars,		4	
If above one hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars,		10	
If above five hundred dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars,		20	
If above one thousand dollars,		30	
Any Notes issued by the banks now established, or that may hereafter be established within the United States, other than the notes of such of the said Banks as shall agree to an annual composition, of one per centum on the annual dividends made by such Banks, to their Stockholders respectively, according to the following scale.			
On all notes not exceeding fifty dollars, for each dollar,		6	
On all notes above fifty dollars, and not exceeding one hundred dollars,		50	
On all notes above one hundred dollars and not exceeding five hundred dollars,	1		
On all notes above five hundred dollars,	2		
Any Protest or other Notarial act,		25	
Any Letter of Attorney, except for an invalid pension, or to obtain or sell Warrants for Land granted by the United States as bounty for military services performed in the late war,		25	
Any Certificate or Debenture for drawback of Customs or duties, for less than five hundred dollars,	1		
For five hundred dollars and not exceeding two thousand dollars,	2		
For more than two thousand dollars,	3		
Any note or bill of lading for goods or merchandize to be exported,			
If from one district to another district of the United States, not being in the same State,		10	
If from the United States to any foreign port or place,		25	
Any Inventory or Catalogue of any furniture, goods or effects, made in any case required by law, (except in cases of goods and chattels distrained for rent or taxes, and goods taken in virtue of any legal process by any officer,)		50	
Any Certificate of a Share in any Insurance Company, of a share in the Bank of the United States, or of any State or other Bank,			
If above twenty dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars,		10	
If above one hundred dollars,		25	
If under twenty dollars, at the rate of ten *cents* for one *hundred* dollars.			

II.

The duties aforesaid will be collected and received by the Supervisors, Inspectors and other Officers of Inspection, in the several Districts, Surveys and Divisions of the United States, and by such other persons as shall from to time be specially appointed and employed by the Supervisors of Districts for that purpose.

III.

The Supervisors of the several Districts will, prior to the first day of July ensuing, and as soon as may be practicable, mark or stamp, without fee or reward, any quantities or parcels of Vellum, Parchment or Paper, with any of the rates of duties before enumerated, on payment of the said duties; Or stamped vellum, parchment and paper may at the option of the Citizens of the United States, be obtained at the rates prescribed by law, by application to any Supervisor, Inspector, Officer of Inspection, or other person appointed for the distribution of Stamps, by the Supervisors of Districts

GIVEN under my Hand, at Philadelphia the day and year abovementioned.

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
Secretary of the Treasury.

March 10.

NOTICE.

ALL persons who have any demands against the estate of WILLAM FLEEWTOOD, of Liverpool, late of Philadelphia, merchant, deceased, are requested to exhibit their accounts, properly attested; and those who are indebted to the same, are desired to make immediate payment, to

GEO. DOBSON, No. 25, So. Third-street. } *Administr'r*

January 4. dtf

Just Published,

And to be had at the Book-stores of Messrs. DOBSON, CAMPBELL, YOUNG and ORMROD, in Philadelphia,

OBSERVATIONS

On the Causes and Cure of Remitting or Bilious Fevers.

To which is annexed,

AN ABSTRACT of the opinions and practice of different authors: and an APPENDIX, exhibiting interesting facts and reflections relative to the *Synochus Icteroides*, or Yellow Fever, which has occasioned so much distress and mortality, at different periods, in several of the seaport towns of the United States of America.

BY WILLIAM CURRIE,

Fellow of the Philadelphia College of Physicians, and Member of the American Philosophical Society. Feb. 1—*3m§

For sale or to be let on ground-rent,

A valuable Lot of Ground;

SITUATE on the north-east corner of Walnut and Fifth streets, fronting the State-House square. This lot is fifty-one feet front on Walnut street, and one hundred and thirteen feet and an half on Fifth street; there are at present two small two story brick houses, and a number of small tenements thereon.

Also, for Sale,

Two three story Brick Houses

With convenient stores, wharf, &c. situate on Water street, between Mulberry and Sassafras Streets, containing in front on Water street fifty-four feet, and containing that breadth eastward ninety-five feet, then widening to the south thirteen feet six inches. These houses have the convenience of a public alley adjoining on the north side, and are a very desirable situation for a a merchant, flour factor, or others who may have occasion for storage of goods. This property will be sold on very reasonable terms for cash. For further information apply to the printer.

July 31. m3wtf

Salisbury Estate.

THE Subscriber, proposing to contract his business, offers this Estate for sale, on moderate terms. On it are one Blast and three Air Furnaces, a complete Boreing Machine, and a very good grist Mill, with two pair of stones; also a good Forge, all in perfect repair, as are all the Water Works connected with these various branches. The Air Furnaces were lately built for the purpose of casting Cannon for this State.—There are abou two thousand acres of Land, one half of which is under wood, the other very fine arable Land, producing the best Hay and Pasture. The Cannon lately manufactured there, fully proves the excellency of the metal, which is superior to any in this country, and probably, equal to any in the world; for not one of sixty-nine guns lately made, although some of the 24 were bored into 32 pounders, have failed on proving. The situation is very eligible, particularly for this branch of manufacture, and a place of arms lying in the state of Connecticut, and only 30 miles from several landings on the Hudson's river, and having every advantage that can result from a plenty of water issuing from a large natural pond, very near the Furnace, and which may be converted into a variety of other useful purposes. The purchaser can be accommodated with all the stock and utensils, and have possession on or before the first of June next, and preparation may be made in the meantime for going into Blast immediately thereafter, for every part will be delivered in good order, with some coal, Ore, &c. &c. For terms, apply to Mr. Joseph Anthony, in Philadelphia; David Brooks, Esq. one of the Representatives in Congress for this State; Mr. David Waterman, on the premises, or to the proprietor in New-York.

WILLIAM NEILSON.

Dec. 1. 3awtf

NOTICE.

A Manufactory of yellow and delft ware,

Such as never was in this Country before, has been been lately erected at Tivoli, Red Hook Landing, on the East Bank of Hudson's River, state of New-York, where any article of various sorts and shapes may be executed, as well as earthern stoves upon a new construction, that saves three fourths of the fuel commonly used in cast iron stoves or open chymnies; they are besides very wholesome and ornamental, by applying to

J. MOUCHET,

Wanted a skillful hand to attend to the baking and glazing part of the said ware. Generous appointments will be given. Apply as above, or to

DAVID BROOKS, Esq.
No. 71 South 5th Street.

Feb. 19. eod4w

Wanted, to Hire,

A large and convenient HOUSE, in or near the centre of the city—for which a generous rent will be given; to be taken for a year, or on more for a longer term. Inquire of the Printer.

Oct. 17. eotf

For Sale,

THE SLOOP

HARRIOT,

NOW lying at Russel's Wharf—Burthen 77 tons—three years old, built of the best materials and is well found—would answer well for a coaster, as she has excellent accommodations.

For terms apply to

Gurney & Smith.

march 13 §

For Boston,

The Ship

COMMERCE,

Richard Waistcoat, *Master.*

To sail in a few days.

Any freight that may offer, will be taken on very moderate terms, for which, or passage, apply to the Captain, or to

Isaac Harvey, jun.
5, South Water-street.

march 12. §1w

FOR SALE,

THE BRIG

West Indian,

Philadelphia built, live oak and cedar, is coppered, sheathed and bolted, 3 years old, sails remarkably well, carries 15 *a* 1600 barrels—now lying at South-street wharf, ready to load

PETER BLIGHT.

march 6. §1w

For Hamburgh,

THE SHIP

DOMINICK TERRY,

JACOB DEHART, *Master,*

Having great part of her cargo engaged.—For freight apply to

Jesse & Robert Waln.

February 26 §

For Sale or Charter,

The Snow

GOOD HOPE

Will carry about 1200 barrels, and is ready to take in a cargo. For terms apply to

Pragers & Co.

No. 151, South Second-street.

Who have for sale—prime St. Croix Sugar and Rum, Madera, Lisbon, and Teneriffe wine.

November 7. dtf

To be Sold,

An elegant Country Seat,

Containing 6 acres and 40 perches, with a neat two story brick House and kitchen thereon, an apple Orchard, &c. situate on the Irish tract lane, in the township of Moyamensing, about one mile from the city of Philadelphia. Further particulars will be made known upon application at the office of the Philadelphia Gazette.

The improvements upon this place, for taste and elegance stand unrivalled.

N. B. If the above place is not sold before the 20th inst. it will then be rented, for the Summer season only. § march 5.

Wanted,

An active, cleanly, industrious woman to cook and do the business of the kitchen. Such a one will be allowed good wages, and no other need apply.—Enquire of the Printer.

February 7 §

Fresh Teas.

Just Imported, in the ship Delaware,

Captain Cooper, from Canton,

And For Sale, by

SAMUEL HOWELL,

At his Compting House, No. 54, Chesnut-street,

AND BY

SAM. E. HOWELL,

At his Compting House, Crooked billet wharf,

Bohea, Souchong, Hyson, Young Hyson, Hyson Skin, and Imperial TEAS.

ALSO,

China Ware, assorted; black and coloured Lutestrings and Sattins, Nankeens, Caffia, large garden and common Fans, sattin and lutestring Umbrellas, whale-bone sticks.

They have also For Sale,

Ell wide Persians, Bandanna Handkerchiefs, French Cambricks and Umbrellas, Sugar in boxes.

march 8. §

To be Let on the Shares,

A valuable Farm ready stocked,

WITHIN 3½ miles from Philadelphia, on the west side of Schuylkill, and near the turnpike.

It is expected the tenant will find suitable persons to take care of a dairy and attend market, with all other necessary labour.

ALSO, WANTED,

A Gardener—a Single Man.

None need apply, in either case, unless they can bring good recommendations,

Enquire at No. 30 Market-street.

march 5. §2w

Notice is hereby given,

THAT application will be made for the renewal of a Certificate of a Share in the Bank of the United States, standing in the name of the Subscriber, No. 5004, and dated July 11, 1797—the same having been lost.

JOHN GRAHAM.

march 5 §6w

TO LET,

And may be entered on immediately,

A good dry Store,

Three stories high, and in an excellent stand for business. Apply to

Thomas & Joshua Fisher,
No. 5, Dock-street.

march 1. §

Landing this day,

From on board the schooner Two Friends, Daniel Crawley, Master,

80 hhds. and 12 pipes } Jamaica RUM,

FOR SALE BY

George Latimer & Son.

november 9. §

Canal Lottery----No. II.

WILL commence drawing Monday, the 20th inst. Tickets for Sale in this Lottery, at *Seven Dollars*, at WM. BLACKBURN's Lottery and Brokers Office, No. 64, South Second-street—Tickets in the Schuylkill Bridge Lottery, at *Ten Dollars*, where check books are kept for registering and examining in these, the City of Washington, No. II. and Pattersson Lotteries, and information where tickets may be had in most of the Lotteries authorised by law in any of the States of the Union.

N. B. The business of a BROKER, in buying and selling all kinds of Public Stock and Securities, discounting Bills and Notes of Hand, sale of Lands, Houses, &c. &c. will be duly attended to, by WM. BLACKBURN.

November 15. §

Virginia Lands.

On Tuesday the 20th inst. will be sold for Cash, by Public Auction, at the Merchant's Coffee-House, at 7 o'clock in the evening,

THE following bodies of Land in the State of Virginia, viz.

13,600 Acres situate on the waters of Big Steer Creek.

26,998 Acres on the waters of the Little Kenharva and the west fork of the Monongahela.

50,450 Acres on the waters of Buchannon river.

Particular descriptions of the Lands, and an examination of the titles may be had by applying to

Footman & Co. Auctioneers.

March 12. dt2om

Will be sold on Wednesday the

21st of March, at 7 o'clock in the evening, at the Merchants' Coffee House, for cash,

AGREEABLY to the last will and testament of William Heysham, deceased, and possession given immediately, a valuable property in Arch-street, between Third and Fourth streets, consisting of the House No. 107, with the Lot on which it stands, a Stable and other improvements. The house is 20 feet front and contains ten good apartments. The lot is of the same breadth as the house, and 209 feet deep, with a well of water, and a very capacious walled cistern, both with pumps in compleat repair. The stable stands on the rear of the lot, and will accommodate four horses and a carriage. This property enjoys a perpetual privilege of a 26 feet court and an alley 8 feet wide, extending to Cherry street. Its central position, and the advantages it possesses with respect to free ventilation, renders it well worthy the attention of any person wishing to possess an eligible property in Philadelphia.

Robert Heysham, or } Acting
Francis Bowes Sayre, } Executors.

CONNELLY & Co. *Auct'rs.*

N. B. The house will be open two days previous to the sale, for the inspection of those who wish to purchase. march 7—§t21st

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JUST RECEIVED,

FROM PORT-AU-PRINCE,

And FOR SALE, by the SUBSCRIBERS,

110 hhds. Coffee

46 tierces do.
100 barrels do.
100 bags do
110 hogsheads of Muscovado Sugar
80 barrels of do.
40 hogsheads of Molasses
4 bales of Cotton
2 hogsheads of Cocoa

WILLINGS & FRANCIS,
Penn-street.

march 12. §

Landing from on board the ship

Tennessee, capt. Smith, from Hamburg,

And FOR SALE by the SUBSCRIBERS,

325 pieces Quadruples Silesias

400 do. Platillas
100 do. Creas
52 do. do. à la Morlaix
100 do. Dowlas
20 do. red striped Arabias
20 do. blue Guingas
100 dozen bordered Handkerchiefs

Eric & Lewis Bollmann,
123, South Third-street.

ALSO, ON HAND,

A case of printed Muslins and Calicoes

march 12. §8t

Hibernian Society.

A Special meeting of the Hibernian Society for the Relief of Emigrants from Ireland, will be held at Mr. M'Shane's, Third-street, on Friday next, the 16th inst. at 7 o'clock in the evening.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Society, will be held at the same place on Saturday the 17th inst. at one o'clock P. M.

Dinner will be on the table at half after three.

Those who intend to dine with the Society, are requested to send their names to Mr. M'Shane, on or before Friday next.

MATTHEW CAREY, *Secretary.*

march 12. d5t

The Creditors of the late Mr. *John Gould*

Are requested to meet at the house of William Smith, Walnut near Front street, on Thursday the 16th inst. at 6 o'clock in the evening.

March 12. 4t

The Commissioners

FOR carrying into effect the TWENTY-FIRST Article of the Treaty of Friendship, Limits, and Navigation, between His Catholic Majesty and the United States of America, hereby give information to all Persons therein concerned—That in order to terminate all differences, on account of the losses sustained by the citizens of the United States, in consequence of their Vessels and Cargoes having been taken by the Subjects of His Catholic Majesty, during the late war between Spain and France, that they are ready to receive (at their Office, between the hours of ten and one o'clock, daily) all complaints and applications, authorized by the said Article, during EIGHTEEN MONTHS, from the day of the date hereof, and that they have power to examine all such persons as come before them, on oath or affirmation, touching the complaints in question, and also to receive in evidence, all written testimony, authenticated in such manner as they shall think proper to require or admit.

By Order of the Commissioners,

PETER LOHRA, *Secretary.*

Commissioners Office, No. 109, *Mulberry-street, May* 17*th*, 1797.

Feb. 28, '98—§1m

*** *These Printers in the several States who published the above advertisement last Spring, are requested to re-publish it one month, and send their accounts to P. L.*

To-morrow will be Landed,

From on board the brig Benjamin Franklin, capt. Jones, from Bordeaux,

Claret of superior quality, viz.

MEDOC } Of the vintages of 1790 and 1791,
LATOUR } in cases

ALSO,

WHITE WINE, of the vintage of 1790

FOR SALE BY

PHILIPS, CRAMOND & Co.

march 7. §

A Wet Nurse wanted,

A healthy Woman, who can be well recommended. Apply at this Office.

march 12. §

To be Sold,

A BRICK HOUSE, together with the Lot thereto belonging, in the city of Burlington, New-Jersey. The house has three rooms below, and three chambers in the upper story. The kitchen adjoining is a frame building. The Lot has a front of 72 feet on Pearl-street, and the same front on the river Delaware. The length of the Lot is about 250 feet—The house commands a very pleasant prospect of the river, and of the Borough of Bristol, on the Pennsylvania shore. Immediate possession may be had. For further particulars, inquire of Mr. John Sims, next door below the City Tavern in Philadelphia, or the subscriber in Burlington.

THOMSON NEALE.

Burlington, march 1. *6od4w

CUSTOM HOUSE,

District of PENNSYLVANIA, *March 6th*, 1798.

THE MERCHANTS of PHILADELPHIA, who may have any account or knowledge of the capture or detention of any ship or vessel, cargo, or other property, belonging to citizens of the United States, residing within this district, by or under the authority of foreign nations, since the first day of October, 1792, are particularly requested to give in information thereof, to the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, as soon as may be convenient; specifying the name of the vessel, the captain's name, the number of tons, the estimated value of the vessel, if condemned, the estimated value of her cargo, or other property, whither carried, and by, or under the authority of what nation captured, with such observations as may be thought necessary upon the circumstances of each case, in order that statements thereof may be transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, who is required to lay the same before the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

march 7. §10t

FOR SALE,

BY THE SUBSCRIBERS, No. 21, Penn-street,

The Cargo of the Ship Ganges,

John Green, commander, from Bengal,

Consisting of

Baftas, of various qualities and prices,

Cossaes	Punjum Cloths
Sanahs	Guzzey do.
Humhums	Charconna Dores
Blue Cloth	Tanjibs
Chintz and Calicoes	Mulmuls
Mamoodys	Checks
Maharagonges	Patna Hkfs.
Ginghams	Mulmul do.
Guzzenas	Bandannoes
Gurrahs	Sillersoy
Piniascoes	Choppa Romals
Salgatchys	Sooty do.
Gillie Romals	Persians of various col.
Meck Pulicats	

200 tons SUGAR
90,000 lb. PEPPER.

Willings & Francis.

The Piece Goods

Of the Ganges are now open to sale at that commodious store the north west corner of Market and Fourth-streets.

Also—A few Bales of Madrass Hkfs. of elegant patterns and best colours.

February 8. dtf

Landing

From on board the Snow Maria, from Copenhagen,

A few Tons Russia Clean Hemp
300 pieces Ravens Duck
250 pieces Russia Sheeting
200 bolts Russia Duck, and
A quantity of Swedes Iron

For Sale by

JOSEPH ANTHONY & Co.

Who have on Hand,

1st and 2d proof Bourdeaux Brandy
4th proof Spanish ditto
New-England Rum
London Particular and London Market } Madeira Wine in Pipes and quarter Casks.
Old Claret in Cases
24 hhds. Coffee just arrived
Best Boston Beef in barrels
Mackrell in do.
Halifax Salmon in do.
A small Invoice of Rhode-Island Cheese
Spermaciti Oil
Tanners ditto
No. 1, 2, 3, Boston Sail Duck
Russia Cordage, and
An Invoice of Dutch Hollow Glass Ware.

March 1. daw

FOR SALE,

The House in Chesnut-street,

NEXT door but one to the corner of Fifth-street, occupied by the subscriber. Its eligible situation is well known—The rooms are spacious and convenient, and finished in a handsome stile—It has a double Kitchen, and excellent Cellars, with an Ice House and rain water Cistern, and there is a Pump of good water near the kitchen door.

For terms apply to

GARRETT COTTRINGER.

march 2. §1w

THE term of Co-partnership between the subscribers, trading under the firm of John Miller, jun. and Co. expires this day, and by mutual consent will not be renewed. The debts and concerns of the same will be settled by John Miller, Jun. to whom all those indebted to the partnership, are earnestly requested to make payment to, without delay.

JOHN MILLER, Jun.
ALEXANDER J. MILLER.

February 19 §tf

LANDING,

From on board the Ship SALLY, from Calcutta,

AND FOR SALE BY THE SUBSCRIBER,

1600 bags prime Sugar,
800 do. Ginger
30 bales low priced piece Goods.

John Miller, Jun.

march 3 §

FOR SALE, BY

JOHN MILLER, JUN.

No. 8, Chesnut-street,

A quantity BENGAL GOODS,

—AMONGST WHICH ARE—

Gurrahs	Mamoodies
Baftas	Sannas
Guzzenas	Tanda Cossaes
Guzzies	Emertics
Blue Cloths	Calicoes
Palampoors	Romall Handkerchiefs

Amongst them are a great proportion of the manufactures of Patna.

British Dry Goods,

ALSO,

Forty puncheons of high proof Rum.

February 19 §

Alex. J. Miller & James Davis,

Having entered into partnership under the firm of

Alexander J. Miller & Co.

INFORM their friends in town and country, that they have opened a Wholesale Dry Good Store, at No. 64, South Front Street, Philadelphia; where they now have, and intend keeping a general assortment of *India, German, Irish, French* and *British* Manufactures for sale, on advantageous terms for cash or a short credit.

February 19 §tf

ROSS & SIMSON,

HAVE FOR SALE,

A few bales Baftas, Cossas, and a quantity of Bengal COTTON

Bengal SUGAR, in bags and boxes

Jamaica, St. Vincents, and Bengal } RUM.

300 casks RICE, and

A parcel of ship building RED CEDAR.

Oct. 27. §

Hyson and Young Hyson Tea.

A few chests of excellent quality, for sale, corner of Second and Pine streets. Dec 26—eotf